
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**CAMEROONS DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION**

FOR THE YEAR

1956



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CAMEROONS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

(Incorporated under Nigerian Ordinance No. 39 of 1946)

FOR THE YEAR

1956.

Head Office:

BOTA, VICTORIA.

CAMEROONS UNDER UNITED KINGDOM ADMINISTRATION.

MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION:

A. H. YOUNG, C.B.E., *Chairman*

W. J. C. RICHARDS

E. K. MARTIN, M.H.A.

J. FINDLAY, M.C.

W. L. BLOOMFIELD, A.C.A.

GALEGA II, FON OF BALI

N. N. MBILE to 12th November, 1956

S. A. ARREY, M.H.A., from 13th November, 1956

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY TO THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS (ECONOMIC SECTION) (*ex officio*)

THE FINANCIAL AND DEVELOPMENT SECRETARY
OF THE SOUTHERN CAMEROONS (*ex officio*)

Secretary :

A. C. WOOD, M.A.

General Manager :

H. R. CLEAVER, T.D., F.A.C.C.A.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CAMEROONS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR THE YEAR 1956.

I. Introduction.

1956 has been a year of great endeavour, and despite innumerable difficulties, the Corporation came through with considerable success. At the beginning of the year it had been anticipated that £1 million would be made available by the Federal Government by way of a loan for carrying out further development, in accordance with the Corporation's long term programme. Early in the year, however, the Corporation was informed that this sum would not be immediately forthcoming, pending an enquiry into the financial structure and viability of the Corporation. Thus it became necessary to restrict very considerably the planting and development programme and all capital works, with a result that the Corporation had to retrench heavily on Staff and Labour, and to enforce stringent economies. The Federal Government subsequently granted a loan of £258,000 and a moratorium on loan repayment and on interest for the year, so that such preparation for planting as had been done and the planting material, which was already available, should not be wasted. Thus the Corporation has been able to achieve a development programme of 1,917 acres bananas, 707 acres rubber, 1,128 acres palms, 27 acres tea and 15 acres cocoa.

The number of bananas lost due to windstorms was lower than the previous year and the somewhat protracted rainy season assisted the growth, but shipments of bananas were adversely affected by the reported weakness of the banana market in the United Kingdom and everything was done to ensure that only the best fruit was shipped in the peak of condition.

Sigatoka disease showed a disquietening increase whereas the rate of the spread of Panama disease remained fairly constant and Cigar End disease was kept well under control.

Rubber production was up to the estimate and the revenue received from exports exceeded expectations due to the higher prices obtaining throughout the year.

Palm Oil and Palm Kernel production was lower than in 1955.

Good progress was made on the oil mill at Idenau which it is hoped will be in operation early in the new year. The new rubber sheet factory was commissioned at Ekona and the new railway track linking Mpundu with the Tiko plain will be completed before the end of the dry season in 1957. The transfer of the Ikange Workshops to Tiko was completed.

The aerial survey was completed as far as difficult flying conditions would allow and the ground survey is still in progress. Mosaics have been produced and maps for use in the soil survey are in the course of preparation.

A decision was taken to hand over the Buea Farms to Government and as from 1st January, 1957, the farms will be run by the Federal Prisons Department.

Negotiations are in train for the transfer of the management of the schools which the Corporation has established throughout the plantations.

II. The Corporation Membership.

The appointment of Mr. A. H. Young, C.B.E., as Chairman of the Corporation, was renewed for a further two years as from 1st January, 1956, and the terms of office of Messrs. Richards, Findlay and Bloomfield were also extended for a further year. Mr. E. K. Martin, M.H.A. and the Fon of Bali were reappointed as members for one year as from 1st October and 13th November, 1956, respectively. On the expiry of Mr. N. N. Mbile's appointment as member on 12th November, 1956, the Governor General appointed Mr. S. A. Arrey as a member for a period of two years.

III. Meetings.

Meetings of the Corporation were held as follows :—

General Meeting, 26th and 27th March, at Bota.

9th Annual General Meeting, 18th April, at Bota.

General Meeting, 1st August, at Bota.

General Meeting, 22nd and 23rd November, at Bota.

The various Sub-Committees of the Corporation met from time to time for discussion before the General Meetings and on other occasions during the year.

IV. Corporation Lands.

As a result of a policy decision by the Corporation, negotiations were satisfactorily concluded for the surrender of the Buea Farm lands to Government and the sale of the Farm stock and equipment to the Federal Prisons Department as from 1st January, 1957.

The Corporation surrendered to Government the Mundimba Estate (5,920 acres) so that it would be developed by a Plantation Company. It also surrendered two small plots, one at Bota for a Police reporting office and one in Kumba which was already partially occupied by the Native Administration.

A further plot of 40 acres adjacent to M'bonge Town was surrendered to Government, so that the Town could be extended to accommodate the increasing population there.

Negotiations were in train for the sublease of a parcel of land near Tiko Wharf for the erection by a Petroleum Company of a bulk oil storage depot.

V. Agricultural Activities.

(i) *Bananas*.—With the increase in the level of importations of bananas into the United Kingdom during the year, the market was highly selective and the Corporation's Marketing Agents decided in the last quarter of the year to cease accepting 6-hand stems. As a result some 72,000 6-hand stems were not shipped between mid-September and the end of the year. The total quantity of stems shipped showed a small increase over 1955 and an increase in stem weight was recorded; the stems per ton for 1956 being 64.3 as compared with 66.65 in 1955 and 74.13 in 1954. The Corporation continued to wrap in diothene tube bags all its exportable fresh fruit and all butts and tips of the stems are now being painted with a thick coat of white lime, in an endeavour to control stem end rot during transit by sea.

Despite a restricted development programme, 1,917 acres were planted during the year and a new banana area was opened up at Mukonje. In addition 8 miles of new road, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles of railroad and 6 bridges were built. 234 temporary labour houses were also built by plantation labour.

Storm damage losses amounted to 1,786,500 plants; some 1,200,000 less than in 1955. A general policy of "earthing up" around banana mats was commenced during May and at the end of the wet season some 10,000 acres had been so treated. In this way it was hoped to reduce the damage caused by wind storms. Elephant damage increased from 132,000 to 159,000 plants which is equivalent to over 300 acres of bananas being devastated.

Sigatoka "leaf spot" disease reached serious proportions in some areas and the estates at Muyuka, Bimbia and Mabeta totalling 2,200 acres virtually ceased production of marketable fruit. In December the incidence of this disease increased throughout all the mature plantings both in the Southern and in the adjoining French Cameroons and the spread of this disease is being viewed with grave concern. The Corporation commenced trial spray control methods late in July with various types of "misting" units. The largest of these machines—the Giraffe—towers some 35 feet above ground level and is hauled by a Caterpillar tractor. Under the best conditions this unit can spray 10 acres per hour, but it can only be operated on mainly level ground. Knapsack power misting machines were tried in those areas where tractors could not operate. Although these small machines provided some measure of control they were subject to the difficulties inherent in two stroke machines in the hands of unskilled operators. At the close of the year a total of 1,000 acres was under spray control and additional machines, including three "Giraffes" are on order. A helicopter is expected early in 1957 to ascertain the possibilities of obtaining economic control of Sigatoka disease by aerial spraying. Cigar End disease control measures were again necessary for six months of the year and although this disease is spreading, satisfactory control is being maintained.

The production of dried bananas continued during the year at the Ikange factory where suitable fruit, rejected on grounds of quality for shipment, was processed and 102 tons were exported.

The Bakweri Co-operative Union of Farmers shipped 433,116 stems through the Corporation and it is anticipated that this quantity will be doubled in 1957.

(ii) *Oil Palms*.—The production of 2,695 tons of Palm Oil and 1,499 tons of kernels fell considerably below the estimated production of 3,050 tons and 1,850 tons respectively, due allowance being made for the closing of the M'bonge plantation. The 1956 estimates were based on the high yields in 1955 which are now attributed to the exceptionally good season and to the shock dressings of potash given to 3,000 acres at Bota and Ekona in 1954. It is expected that with a regular dressing of potash commencing in 1957 the production from 1958 onwards will show satisfactory results.

The M'bonge Mill was closed in January and all useful plant was dismantled and transferred to Ekona. Construction of the new mill at Idenau continued satisfactorily and it is anticipated it will be commissioned early in 1957. The Bota Oil Mill was not closed during the year for its regular overhaul, but maintenance was carried out during the months of June to August. There has been a general improvement in the F.F.A. at all levels during the year, the monthly average ranging from 1.47 per cent. to 3.28 per cent., the greater part of production being under 2.5 per cent. F.F.A. Palm Oil Shipments throughout the year were satisfactory and actual outturn losses ranged from .07 per cent. to .35 per cent. The F.F.A. on shipment averaged 2.84 per cent. as against 3.05 per cent in 1955 and 3.63 per cent. in 1954.

Selected seed production during the year amounted to 176,616 as against 187,049 in 1955. Germination was satisfactory and the disease incidence in the nurseries was lower than previously. Sufficient seedlings were available for the 1957 programme.

264 acres of immature palms planted in 1952 at Bota and 713 acres at Idenau were brought into harvest at the beginning of the year.

The Planting programme consisted of 524 acres at Bota and 605 acres at Idenau of which 212 acres and 130 acres respectively were replanting.

Modifications were made to the bulk oil plant at Bota to provide facilities for the discharge of oil from a new 50-ton self-propelled oil barge.

Due to the economy measures brought into force early in the year the rate of construction of labour lines was reduced and the building programme will be carried forward to 1957.

(iii) *Rubber*.—Of the 707 acres planted during the year with stumps of clonal seed or budded, 401 were planted in ex-banana land at Matute near Missellele. Planting costs are low compared with planting virgin bush and it is anticipated that the incidence of root disease in this area will be greatly reduced. The production for the year exceeded that of

1955 by 423,499 lbs., 82 per cent. being RSS I and 14 per cent. being crepe. The yield per acre of some of the post-war plantings has now reached 1,000 lbs. and indications show that post-war clones imported from Malaya in 1948 and budded in the field in 1950 and 1951 should give equally good results.

550,560 lbs. of crepe were manufactured, 111,520 lbs. at Mukonje and 439,040 lbs. at Tiko; of this quantity 12,160 lbs. were pale crepe. Considerable progress has been made in improving the quality of the crepe and alterations are in hand to improve the drying capacity of the Tiko Crepe Drying House.

In August the new sheet factory at Meanja was commissioned and worked well, permitting economies in labour, with the result that the manufacturing costs at this factory are the lowest on the Corporation's Rubber Estates. Modifications are being carried out on all smokehouse carriages to increase their carrying capacity and to reduce the necessity for a certain number of additional smoke houses. A new and adequate water supply was installed at Mukonje.

The labour housing programme was continued on a modified scale at Mungo, Kompanda, Matute and Meanja.

Adequate stocks of budwood are available for future planting.

(iv) *Cocoa*.—Production exceeded the estimate by nearly 19 tons and this was due mainly to the systematic spraying against "Black Pod" and "Leafless Twig" diseases. Spraying against these two diseases has been carried out during the past three years, but in 1956 sufficient machines were available to maintain the required three-weekly cycle with satisfactory results and at the end of the year there was a very marked reduction in the incidence of "Leafless Twig" and there has been a vigorous and healthy flush of leaf. As in the adjoining bananas, elephant damage was considerable though the shooting of two elephants by one of the plantation staff has had a temporary salutary effect.

Due to the reduced development programme only 15 of the proposed 25 acres were planted in Upper Amazon seed obtained from the West African Cocoa Research Institute. In October the first pod of the 1954 plantings was harvested and both the 1954 and 1955 plantings are looking well. The re-supplying of mature areas was continued, coco-yams being used as local shade.

Adequate selected seed for the 1957 planting programme as well as for re-supplying purposes is available.

Experiments with cuttings under diothene sheeting were made and nearly 100 per cent. success was achieved, but there were subsequent losses during hardening up and also due to rat damage.

(v) *Pepper*.—The improvement in crop harvested continued with a rise from 16,905 lbs. in 1955 to 52,392 lbs. This was partly due to the increasing acreage coming into bearing but also to the effectiveness of the spray used to control the disease "Black Berry" which has caused serious losses in the past.

(vi) *Tea*.—27 acres of new planting was done during the year. The previous years' plantings have been fully supplied and the whole garden is in a fine state of growth and upkeep.

Building of the factory was halted early in the year owing to the need to reduce expenditure and although it has now been decided to complete the factory, work will not recommence until 1957. Most of the necessary machinery has arrived and is awaiting installation and commissioning.

A gravity water supply has been installed at very little cost and provides sufficient water for the nurseries and labour camp.

(vii) *Research*.

(a) *Soil Investigations*.—Soil investigations are being extended and will presently include three methods of approach.

(i) *Fertiliser Trials*.—The fertilizer trials were the first experiment laid down. They embrace bananas, cocoa, young rubber and oil palms growing on soils considered to be typical in the area where these crops are grown, and they involve, first the response of these crops as measured by yield or growth, to applications of the three main plant nutrients—nitrogen, phosphate and potash—and, second, various combinations of these plant nutrients with lime, magnesium and organic matter. These trials also include agronomic factors such as the earthing up of bananas to reduce storm damage.

In the Tiko area a new trial was begun to test the effect of compound fertilizers on Dwarf Chinese bananas, which are highly resistant to Panama Disease and which it was hoped might replace Gros Michel in the badly diseased areas. The fertilizer trial on young rubber at Missellele was discontinued, no significant growth effect having been obtained where this crop was planted in land cleared from virgin bush, and a new experiment was laid down in Matute where rubber is being planted in land formerly under bananas.

At Tombel, to supplement the fertilizer trial on mature cocoa, a fertilizer trial was begun on Upper Amazon Cocoa.

(ii) *Soil Surveys*.—In anticipation of the receipt of the maps produced from the aerial survey the Soil Scientist attended a course on aerial photography interpretation and it is hoped to commence a soil survey in the Tiko area early in 1957 together with the production of soil maps. The Matute section of the Tiko plain was surveyed to ascertain which soils in this area, which was previously under bananas, were suitable for rubber.

(iii) *Foliar Analysis*.—By Foliar Analysis the amounts of plant nutrients can be correlated to yields and thus fertilizer requirements for various crops in various areas can be assessed. Some preliminary work on foliar analysis has been carried out in the Palms Laboratory, Bota. A new laboratory is being built at Ekona specifically for this work and a Cameroonian under training as a Chemist in the United Kingdom will return during 1957.

These three methods should together provide the Corporation with detailed information on land classification, land capability and land use.

(b) *Disease and Pest Investigations.*

Investigations have been primarily concerned with the diseases and pests of bananas.

(i) *Sigatoka Leaf Spot (Mycosphaerella musicola).*—In December 1954 the Consultant on banana diseases drew attention to a small area badly affected by Sigatoka and demonstrated the presence of ascospores in “burnt” leaves. The disease spread rapidly during 1955. Attempts were made to check the spread of the disease by ascospores by destroying dead leaves and in the 1955-56 dry season the worst affected part was cut down and treated as a replanted area.

Experience at Muyuka, Bimbia and Mabeta, shows that Sigatoka is now behaving in the Southern Cameroons as in other countries, that it can destroy a farm in two years, that without spraying, the destruction of infected leaves and the cutting back of severely affected areas are ineffective, and that the costs of spraying to control Sigatoka can only be borne by banana farms which are in all other respects fully productive.

(ii) *Panama Disease.*—Panama disease, which has spread to all the Corporation's mature banana areas except Tombel, has now been confirmed in the French Cameroons at Mbanga, which is just across the border from Tombel. It is therefore probable that the disease will spread to the Tombel plantations and that this last source of panama disease free planting material may become infected.

(iii) The Banana Borer Weevil (*Cosmopolites sordidus*) has been recorded in the French Cameroons. In March, it was found that planting material from Tombel contained borer grubs.

(c) *Crop Selection.*

Bananas.—The six Lacatan suckers planted at Ekona in September 1954 were dug up and split in June 1955, yielding 49 pieces of planting material. The severe 1955-56 dry season, during which it was impossible to provide adequate irrigation, checked growth so that the rate of new leaf production fell from one every eight days to one every six weeks. At the end of February 1956, the plants were dug up and split, yielding 297 pieces of planting material which by October had multiplied into 1,502 pieces. These latter have been planted in a new plot by a river and are being watered by an overhead Rainmaker plant during the dry season. Growth has so far been excellent and the rate of sucker production encouraging.

It is hoped in the spring of 1957 to import suckers from plants of the 1877 and Robusta varieties, produced in Jamaica and now growing in quarantine at Kew. These varieties are highly resistant to Panama Disease.

(d) *Cocoa.*

The mature cocoa at Tombel is Trinitario variety and is at least 20 years old. It was badly neglected for some 10 years during the war and the immediate post-war period. In the fertilizer experiment plots individual tree yields of the number of healthy and diseased pods, weight of pods and of wet beans are recorded weekly.

(e) *Meteorology.*

Meteorological stations were set up at Molyko, M'bonge, Ekona, Tombel, Bota and Idenau.

The basic records kept are maximum and minimum temperatures, wet and dry bulb readings for humidity, earth temperatures, hours of sunshine, rainfall and evaporation. In addition, rainfall records are kept on all plantations.

(ix) *Timber.*—The main purpose of the Timber Division is to clear land which is suitable for agricultural development, of economic trees which will produce timber for use by the Corporation as well as timber for export.

The quality of the Obeche logs exported by the Corporation has aroused considerable interest in the United Kingdom and has resulted in many enquiries from the trade. 3,520 tons of these logs were shipped during the year which compares favourably with 1,340 tons shipped in 1955. Sample shipments have been made of Sapele, Utile, Opepe and Iroke amounting to 107 tons. 684 tons of logs unsuitable for shipment to the United Kingdom were sold locally during the latter part of 1956.

VI. Production.

Comparative figures for the last six years are shown in Appendix I.

VII. Joint Activities with Elders & Fyffes Ltd.

Previous arrangements with Elders & Fyffes Ltd. for the conduct of the joint railway and hospital activities at Tiko continued.

VIII. Engineering.

A. Civil.

(i) *Staff.*—The establishment was substantially reduced early in the year in view of the decreasing volume of new constructional work.

(ii) *Staff Housing.*—As a result of the commissioning of the new Head Office, it was possible to convert the old offices into a Senior Service house and a transit Mess. One Senior Service type chalet was also built in Victoria for the Government.

(iii) *Factory and Workshop Buildings.*—The main railway workshops at Ikange, which were previously sited approximately two miles from the industrial area, were dismantled and re-erected in Tiko. The move was virtually complete by the end of the year. This has permitted considerable economies and the cost of the move has already been largely recovered.

Installation of machine guards and other safety measures took place throughout the Corporation's workshops in order to comply with the provisions of the new Factories Act.

(iv) *Labour Lines*.—A semi-permanent camp at Bolifamba, comprising 180 rooms, was completed early in the year. In addition, 72 Arcon-type labour lines were constructed at Bibundi. Nine Intermediate Service type quarters were constructed, five in Bota and four in Tiko. Conversion of Intermediate Service Staff latrines to W.C.'s was carried out in Bota. Five aqua latrines, to replace pail closets, were constructed in Bota, four in the German labour lines and one in the Industrial Area.

(v) *Miscellaneous Buildings*.—The following miscellaneous building works were completed during the year :—

Twelve car garage at new Head Office.

Modification of Cold Store, Tiko.

Bibundi Wharf and Transit Shed.

Slaughter House, Victoria, for Native Authority.

(vi) *Railways*.—Work on the Tiko/Mpundu rail link was closed down in February. The project was re-opened in September but was further delayed by the late rains. It is now, however, making satisfactory progress.

(vii) *Water Supplies*.—A water supply, operated by a hydram, was installed at Old Koke Camp, Ekona.

(viii) *Workshop Activities*.—Due to the reduction in the Corporation's Capital Works programme during the greater part of the year, a considerable amount of heavy earthmoving and Civil Engineering plant was hired to contractors and others. With the resumption of activities after the rains, this equipment is now being used on Corporation projects.

In order to utilise fully the output of the Tiko Sawmills approximately 4,000 cubic feet of sawn obeche was prepared for export.

Work to the value of approximately £5,000 in respect of joinery and furniture and small miscellaneous items, was carried out in the Workshops for local consumers, including Government Departments, in addition to Corporation requirements.

B. Mechanical Transport.

One African member of the Intermediate service was promoted to the Senior Service and minor reductions in maintenance staff were affected. There was a reduction of the total fleet of vehicles by three to 296 vehicles at the end of the year. Twenty-eight new vehicles were put into service of which nineteen were diesel engined lorries. There are now 27 of these vehicles in service and they are so far proving much more economical to operate than the older petrol engined vehicles. With the introduction of the diesel lorries, the demands made on the lorry pool at Moliwe for banana shipments were negligible enabling transport to be hired out, principally to Building Contractors, and also to Produce Agents. The demand was somewhat greater than expected and all vehicles were kept fully employed during the dry season.

The normal replacement programme was curtailed, but is being resumed in 1957. Despite this curtailment and consequent increase in the average age of the fleet, the total cost of maintenance, repairs and tyres fell by nearly £16,660 from £75,280 to £58,620.

Efforts were made to expand the business done with the public and there was an increase of nearly 50 per cent. in the total revenue compared with 1955. The following figures show how this business has progressed the last three years :—

	1954	1955	1956
Sale of new vehicles	£64,544	£40,258	£59,788
Sale of secondhand vehicles ...	1,663	6,974	6,018
Sale of Spares and Tyres ...	22,400	27,206	34,029
Repairs carried out	5,971	9,870	15,142
Transport hired	4,135	5,919	17,935
	£98,713	£90,227	£132,912

The revenue from the sale of new vehicles was due in part to the sale of 16 Tippers to the Public Works Department. The Corporation holds a distributor agency for Austin Motor Vehicles and Dunlop Tyres, and the sale of spares and tyres again showed a substantial increase over the previous year.

C. Electrical.

A new 100-kVA outdoor-type transformer was installed at the Industrial site, Middle Farm, to replace the 50-kVA transformer which was on loan from the Electricity Corporation of Nigeria. The 300-kVA transformer at Bota was resited to permit alterations to be carried out by the supply authorities.

In December Bota Power House was handed over to the Electricity Corporation of Nigeria.

New special interlocking switchgear for the L.T. distribution system at Tombel was commissioned and at Mukonje a complete new overhead L.T. distribution system was installed to replace the old German system.

A systematic overhaul of the distribution at Bota Wharf was carried out and a much improved lighting scheme installed.

A new underground cable was run for the supply to New Ikange Workshops and the potential supply to the Holtfoth Area and extensions to Tiko Cold Store were carried out similar to those done in Bota Cold Store last year.

Air-conditioning plant was installed in the operating theatre and sterilising room at Bota Hospital and in the operating theatre and X-ray room at Tiko Hospital.

IX. Marine and Shipping.

The Corporation handles all sea-borne imports and exports to and from the Southern Cameroons through its wharves at Bota and Tiko.

The volume of trade at these two Ports during the year has been summarized in table form in Appendix 2. The inward cargo was 2,635 tons less than in 1955 and this is mainly attributable to the curtailment of imports of cement and other building materials. The outward cargo rose by 5,818 tons, due for the most part to the increased cocoa and timber shipments from Bota and Tiko respectively.

Figures of produce shipped from the Cameroons during 1955 and 1956 were :—

		1955	1956
		<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
Cocoa	... ..	3,477	5,954
Palm Oil	... ..	2,924	2,725
Palm Kernels	... ..	1,925	1,536
Rubber	... ..	1,673	1,645
Pepper...	... ..	7	22
Timber	... ..	1,351	5,475
Coffee	... ..	417	672
		11,774	18,029

The Corporation's fleet of inland water and sea-going craft as at the end of the year was as follows :—

Single screw motor lighters (sea-going)	8
Single screw tugs (sea-going)	6
Twin screw river towing launches	6
Single screw river towing launches	8
Sea-going dumb barges	13
River dumb barges	29
Lifeboats	2

These craft were used for lighterage work at Bota and Tiko ports and the carriage of cargo between Bota and Tiko and the various plantation wharves covering the area from M'bonge on the Meme River to Tombel on the Mungo River. General cargo, cocoa and bananas were also carried for concerns other than the Corporation. Excluding bananas, a total of 19,912 tons was handled in this way.

The Corporation continued to act as Agents for Elder Dempster Lines Ltd., Palm Line Ltd., Guinea Gulf Line Ltd., and Farrell Lines Inc.

X. Staff and Labour.

(i) *Establishment*.—There was a decrease in the strength of the staff and the labour force during the year, and the position on 31st December, 1956, was as follows :—

Senior Service	... ..	187
Intermediate Service	... ..	40
Junior Service, including employees on		
monthly Agreements	... ..	1,082
General Labour Force	... ..	16,671

The number of Africans in the Senior Service increased by eight, of whom two Nursing Sisters, one Medical Practitioner, an Administrative Assistant and an Assistant Personnel Officer were appointed direct to the Corporation staff. Three promotions from the Intermediate Service were made ; one employee was promoted as Field Assistant, another as Marine Assistant and a third as Motor Transport Supervisor. Four employees were promoted to the Intermediate Service during the year, whilst a total of 162 appointments was made to the Junior Service, or to positions subject to monthly agreements.

(ii) *Wages and Conditions of Service*.—No major alterations have been made in the rates of pay during the year following the Arbitration award in November 1955 which resulted in an upward revision of wages and salaries. Although subsidies on foodstuffs are no longer in operation, the Corporation continues to make available such commodities as it can at economic rates. The 21 Corporation Workers Shops continued to supply essential foodstuffs and commodities and the turnover for the year was £146,360.

(iii) *Cameroons Development Corporation Workers' Union*.—Following the re-organisation of the Union conducted by the Labour Department in August, a Scheme for Joint Consultation was agreed between the Management and the Union and has been put into effect. This scheme provides for Joint Area Committees at Bota, Tiko, Ekona and the Northern Area and the institution of a Central Consultative Committee. The area committees investigate individual complaints and matters of local application, whilst the Central Committee is responsible for matters referred to it by the area committee and for matters of general application.

(iv) *Provident Fund*.—At the close of 1956 there were 1,018 members of the Fund, the market value of the Fund's investments being £256,372 18s. 4d.

(v) *Retiring Gratuities*.—During the year 490 gratuities amounting to £15,756 13s. were approved. This shows an increase of 157 and £6,949 16s. 3d. on the awards approved in the previous year. In addition to the gratuities for service with the Corporation, *ex gratia* payments are available to employees in respect of their service on the Plantations prior to the Corporation's existence. Payments to 295 employees amounting to £2,566 5s. 8d. were authorised during the year. This is an increase of 61 cases and £173 13s. 5d. as compared with 1955.

XI. Welfare and Social Services.

(i) *Recreation*.—For some years the organisation of the recreational activities and welfare of the employees has been the responsibility of an expatriate officer, but once the Division had been properly established and with the need for economy, the Senior Service post of Welfare Officer was abolished. In March 1956 the Area Welfare Assistants took over the running of the various sports and recreations with considerable success, which reflects well on the groundwork and training put in by the previous Welfare Officer. The over-riding responsibility for this Division has now been placed in the hands of the Personnel Officer.

Teams from the Corporation again won the Commissioner's Cup and the United Africa Company's Cup, both of which have been donated for football.

In the Southern Cameroons Amateur Athletic Association Meeting in March a member of one of the Corporation teams created a new long jump record for the Southern Cameroons with 20 ft. 7 in.

Sport for women has been encouraged and several netball teams have been formed. It is hoped that this will be developed.

During the year competitions were held in Choral Singing and Tribal Dancing and a successful boxing tournament was staged.

(ii) *News Sheet*.—The Welfare News Letter was published regularly.

(iii) *Film Unit*.—The mobile cinema units were able to maintain regular monthly shows in all areas with the exception of one occasion when the M'bonge road was impassable. Altogether a total of 905 shows were given to an estimated total audience of 252,000. As from the 1st January, 1956, cinema shows, apart from camp shows for labour, have been on a repayment basis. Several performances of technical films were given to personnel in the Medical Division.

Amplifier equipment was provided for 95 "High Life" dances and public address equipment was installed and operated at various centres for Cameroons National Day celebrations and also for athletic meetings.

The work of the radio and projector repair section expanded considerably, 100 per cent increase being recorded in the repairs effected for the public. The unit also assumed the responsibility for the repair and maintenance of the Corporation's radio telephone network.

The work of the photographic section also showed an increase and it is anticipated that this will be even greater in 1957 when it is hoped to provide an efficiently designed permanent building for the processing rooms in place of the converted building of semi-permanent construction at present in use.

It was intended to provide a suitable building and facilities for the production of sound films in connection with an extensive programme of technical training of staff, particularly in agriculture, but owing to the introduction, early in the year, of extensive economy measures, it was found necessary to defer this project.

(iv) *Welfare Expenditure*.—The Corporation's recurrent expenditure on welfare and social services during 1956 was £53,135. In addition, capital expenditure on schools, community halls, etc., amounted to £12,200.

XII. Education.

(i) *General*.—In March a decision was taken to approach the Southern Cameroons Government as to the possibilities of the Government or the Native Authorities taking over the Corporation Primary Schools. By the end of the year nothing concrete had materialised from the negotiations

and it is not anticipated that they will be finalised until 1958. The missions, who managed four of the Corporation owned schools, have been offered the opportunity of taking over the ownership and full financial responsibility of these four schools and it is anticipated that this new arrangement will begin to operate in 1958.

(ii) *Primary Education.*—The Corporation owned and managed 11 primary schools, including a new school at Mokoko, M'bonge Plantation. At the end of the year, the school at Mabeta had to be closed down owing to the substantial reduction in the labour force. Bota, Tiko and Idenau Schools now have Senior Primary classes.

A number of children of the Senior Service Staff between the ages of 5 and 9 attended the two P.N.E.U. schools at Bota and Tiko.

Free education and school meals are no longer provided in Corporation schools. The fees charged are at the normal rates laid down for Voluntary Agencies. At the end of the year the number of children enrolled in schools owned and managed by the Corporation was 1,045, compared with 1,276 at the beginning of the year and about 1,100 in 1955. The falling-off in numbers was mainly due to a reduction in the labour force and not to unwillingness to pay school fees.

The staffing of the schools under Corporation management continues to be satisfactory. Of the 46 teachers employed by the Corporation, 42 have received professional training and of these, 33 are certificated. 11 of the teachers are women, eight of whom are certificated. This has been the result in recent years of finding sufficient places in training centres for the professional training of teachers to satisfy anticipated needs.

(iii) *Scholarships.*—The Corporation now makes an annual grant of £5,000 to the Southern Cameroons Scholarship Board from which awards for Higher and Secondary education are made. In addition, six annual scholarships are awarded to young employees or children of employees for junior technical training at Ombe Trade Centre.

In 1956, 13 scholarship awards were made ; these included one in advanced teacher training, one in accountancy and three in pharmacy. Eight non-employees were accepted for teacher training. Altogether 55 scholarships have now been awarded to Corporation employees and 40 non-employees have been sent for teacher training.

(iv) *Adult Literacy Classes.*—About 100 evening literacy classes at 40 centres were held three times a week in three grades, those employees reaching the top grade being allowed to take an examination prior to the award of literacy certificates. The number of literacy certificates awarded during the year was 44.

Classes in English and Arithmetic are held for employees who have completed the Senior Primary School Course, mainly office workers, leading to the Elementary Examinations of the Royal Society of Arts. One purpose of these classes is to improve the general education of employees prior to admitting them to more advanced technical courses in book-keeping, etc.

Technical classes in carpentry, motor mechanics, engineering and a course for quartermasters were held for about 50 employees. These classes are tutored by Senior Service volunteers.

(v) *Promotion Examinations*.—Of the 297 candidates who entered for these examinations, 27 were successful.

(vi) *Library*.—Sixteen library boxes, each containing approximately 70 books to suit employees at various educational levels, are circularised on the Corporation estates. Reading rooms and periodicals are provided in the main centres.

XIII. Medical.

During the year 1956 the Corporation's Medical Service began to benefit from the emphasis laid on training during the last few years. Of the nurses-in-training who sat the final examination of the Nursing Council in December 1955, 11 qualified and a further 14 qualified in June. It has now been possible to distribute qualified staff to all areas with a consequent improvement in the standard of nursing which had previously been carried out largely by untrained staff with limited skilled supervision. The June results were particularly pleasing as 13 of the candidates were the first of those who had passed through the Nurses Preliminary Training Scheme. Of these 13 who qualified, one was a female, bringing the total of Nigerian Registered Female Nurses to nine. More female nurses are in training and it is intended that all female nurses should qualify eventually as midwives.

The number of applications for posts as nurses-training exceeds vacancies within the Corporation, but the Preliminary Training School accepts candidates from other organisations.

It has been possible to reduce the strength of the Medical Officers by one, by the introduction of shorter tours for these Officers. The establishment of Nursing Sisters is not yet complete. One Pharmacist who qualified on a Corporation scholarship has joined the staff and one who left the Corporation in 1955 has re-joined. Three more students on Corporation scholarships are attending the School of Pharmacy at Lagos and should qualify in 1958.

Two new auxiliary hospitals were opened during the year at Mokoko and Idenau. They are built to the standard design of the Corporation for auxiliary hospitals and contain 12 male and four female beds as well as a special out-patient department. All the auxiliary hospitals are now in charge of experienced personnel and are adequately staffed to give a full 24-hour service.

The layout of the Corporation's medical services, together with the statistics of in-patients admissions and discharges is given in Appendix 5.

There were no serious epidemics during the year and not one single case of smallpox. Some 9,300 vaccinations against smallpox were carried out by Corporation staff. There was, however, a significant amount of dengue-like fever in the dry season especially at Ekona and Tombel. The incidence of tropical ulcer was even lower than last year.

Cases of malaria have been very few and the general health of the labour continues to improve. This is due to the regular spraying of all camps and nearby villages with an insecticide having a long residual effect and also to the fact that with the enhanced wages, the labour appears to be purchasing a more balanced diet. The provision of better housing and water supplies is gradually eliminating those diseases which are due to faulty sanitation. Above all, the system of Aid Posts has enabled treatment to be administered at the earliest possible opportunity.

The campaign against black fly (*simulium*) in the Victoria division plantations was reasonably successful. For about six months the black fly was practically eliminated but it has since re-established itself. A more intensive campaign is planned for 1957.

As a result of closer and more skilled supervision, economies were found possible in the use of drugs, dressings and other such provisions.

In May a policy decision was made whereby a fee for employees and their dependants was charged for maintenance whilst in hospital.

Recurrent expenditure for medical services was £119,739 and contributions of £15,700 were received from other estates using the services of the Corporation's Medical Division. Capital expenditure during the year including work in progress amounted to £24,200.

XIV. Finance.

(i) *Capital Structure.*—In recent years it has become increasingly evident that loans involving early repayment do not form a suitable method of financing the Corporation's development of permanent plantation crops. During the year the Government of Nigeria therefore commissioned Messrs. Harmood Banner, Lewis and Mounsey, Chartered Accountants, to enquire into the present viability of the Corporation and to advise on its future capital requirements, on its development potential should additional capital be forthcoming and on a suitable capital structure to meet the needs of the Corporation. Messrs. Harmood Banner, Lewis and Mounsey visited the Corporation's Headquarters and Estates in June and their report is now under consideration by Government.

In view of this enquiry and pending the decisions made on it, the Federal Government made a further loan of £258,000 to provide for the immediate needs of the Corporation and have deferred the collection of all interest due on Government loans amounting to £63,000 and capital repayments of £54,000.

(ii) *Results to 31st December, 1956.*—After providing in full for the cost of new planting, replanting and upkeep of immature areas and for the statutory depreciation on buildings, roads and railways, plant and machinery, etc., amounting to £3,900,087, the value of the assets of the Corporation is shown in the Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1956, as £4,077,815. Creditors and provision for accrued liabilities amounted to £495,072 and loans to £2,133,489, leaving a surplus of assets over liabilities of £1,449,254.

**FURTHER ILLUSTRATIONS
OF
ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOPMENTS
ON THE
CAMEROONS DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION'S
ESTATES.**



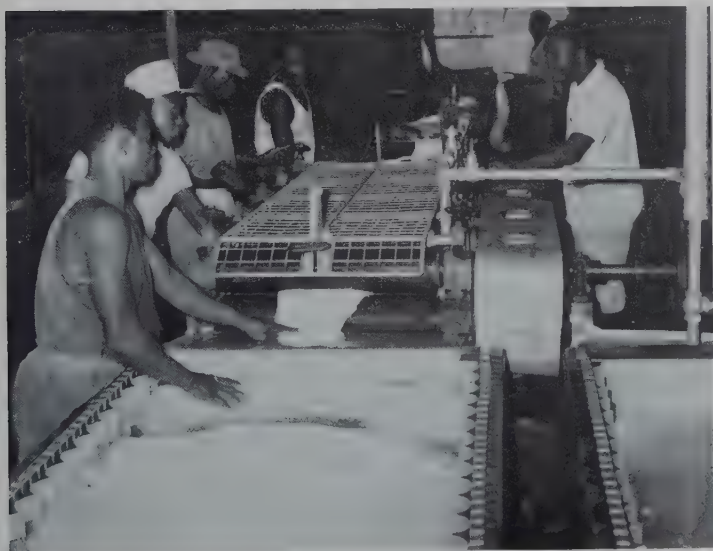
SPRAYING AGAINST SIGATOKA—"GIRAFFE"



SPRAYING AGAINST SIGATOKA—KNAPSACK SPRAYERS



MEANJA RUBBER FACTORY



MEANJA RUBBER FACTORY



TOLE TEA FACTORY UNDER CONSTRUCTION



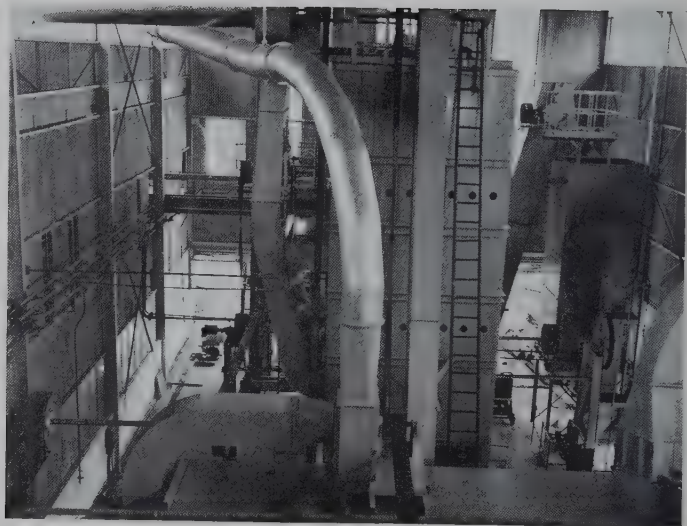
TOMBEL COCOA



NURSES TRAINING COURSE IN TIKO HOSPITAL



AUXILIARY HOSPITAL, TOMBEL



GENERAL VIEW OF NEW OIL MILL, IDENAU



NEW 50-TON BULK PALM OIL BARGE



MPUNDU/TIKO RAILWAY UNDER CONSTRUCTION



NEW RAILWAY WORKSHOP, TIKO

The Revenue and Profit and Loss Accounts show that after providing for £557,493 in respect of new planting and upkeep of immature areas and £111,335 in respect of Statutory depreciation on other fixed assets there remained a surplus for the year to 31st December, 1956, of £43,332. After deducting the deficit of £28,215 brought forward at 1st January, 1956, a balance of £15,117 is available for distribution to the Commissioner of the Cameroons.

The Members of the Corporation record their appreciation of the services rendered by the staff at all levels and by the labour force which has been so essential to the progress made. The Corporation also desires to record its appreciation of the assistance and advice provided by many Government Departments and Government Officers.

(Signed) A. H. YOUNG, *Chairman.*
 W. J. C. RICHARDS, *Member.*
 E. K. MARTIN, *Member.*
 J. FINDLAY, *Member.*
 W. L. BLOOMFIELD, *Member.*
 GALEGA II, FON OF BALI, *Member.*
 S. A. ARREY, *Member.*
 C. P. THOMPSON, *Member.*
 J. MURRAY, *Member.*
 A. C. WOOD, *Secretary.*

PRODUCTION.

APPENDIX No. 1.

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Bananas—Total for British Cameroons						
Shipments—stems	5,773,208	5,746,946	5,893,294	5,666,901	4,394,851	4,594,271
Cameroons Development Corporation Estates						
Shipments—stems	3,609,906	3,743,801	3,846,585	3,904,863	3,034,222	3,074,397
Dried Bananas tons	256	234	124	22	102	102
Palm Oil	2,463	2,593	2,715	2,862	3,349	2,695
Palm Kernels	1,265	1,576	1,712	1,739	2,010	1,499
Rubber	1,606	1,559	1,800	1,595	1,525	1,714
Cocoa	83	81	81	100	110	219
Pepper... ..	1.5	2.6	2.5	6.1	7.5	23.4
Milk, gallons	24,870	30,086	26,482	27,299	30,483	29,458
Timber—Log shipments tons	—	—	—	421	1,340	3,627

SUMMARY OF CARGO AT BOTA AND TIKO PORTS
(in tons)

	Inward	Outward (excluding bananas)
Bota 	35,290	14,162
Tiko 	10,744	7,959
Total 1956 ...	46,034	22,121
Total 1955 ...	48,669	16,303
Total 1954 ...	45,834	12,304
Total 1953 ...	35,528	11,347
Total 1952 ...	41,995	11,617
Total 1951 ...	32,423	8,213
Total 1950 ...	28,459	8,508
Total 1949 ...	21,193	7,774
Total 1948 ...	13,273	5,262

ACREAGE STATISTICS, DECEMBER 1956—PRINCIPAL CROPS (All acres are excluded which are not in active cultivation or harvesting)

BANANAS (ACRES)

	Mature	New Planting 1956	Abandonments for disease, etc.	Total	Preparation for 1957 Planting
Tiko	6,098	116	1,141	5,073	700
Bota	3,718	232	1,553	2,397	—
Ekona	3,787	407	574	3,620	700
Molyko	2,753	434	75	3,112	—
Tombel	2,730	101	—	2,831	200
Meme	3,179	461	252	3,388	100
Mukonje ..	—	166	—	166	300
Total ..	22,265	1,917	3,595	20,587	2,000

RUBBER (ACRES)

	Mature	Immature	Total	Preparation for 1957 Planting
Missellele Area	3,981	2,741	6,722	600
Tiko Area	2,178	—	2,178	—
Ekona Area	1,617	1,210	2,827	210
Mukonje Area	2,512	2,870	5,382	—
Total	10,288	6,821	17,109	810

PALMS (ACRES)

	Mature	Immature	Total	Preparation for 1957 planting
Bota/West Coast Area ..	7,727	1,943	9,670	500
Ekona Area	2,237	—	2,237	—
Idenau	1,713	2,704	4,417	600(a)
Ikassa	1,149	—	1,149	—
Total	12,826	4,647	17,473	1,100

(a) Includes 300 acres replanting.

COCOA (ACRES)

	Mature	Immature	Total	Preparation for 1957 planting
Tombel	1,065	35	1,100	50

TEA (ACRES)

	Mature	Immature	Total	Preparation for 1957 planting
Tole	61(b)	74	135	50

(b) Includes 20 acres seed garden.

PEPPER (ACRES)

	Mature	Immature	Total	Preparation for 1957 planting
Ekona	44	—	44	—

CAMEROONS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.
Analysis of Employees by Tribes, as at 31st December, 1956.

<i>Tribe.</i>	<i>No. Employed.</i>	<i>Tribe.</i>	<i>No. Employed.</i>
VICTORIA DIV.		BAMENDA	
Bakolle	7	Aghem (Wum)	1,143
Bakweri	756	Bafut	632
Balong	15	Bali	461
Bamboko	12	Baba-Befang	253
Isubu (Bimbia)	27	Bum	71
Mongo	3	Esimbi	37
		Fungom	553
	820	Kaka	239
		Kom (Bikom)	413
		Mbaw	—
KUMBA DIV.		Mambila	26
Bafo (Bafaw)	24	Mbembe	30
Bakosi	212	Menemo	624
Balue	255	Mfumte	22
Balundu	194	Misaje	11
Balundu-Badiko	65	Moghamo	278
Bamboko	—	Ndop	360
Barombi	3	Ngemba	430
Basosi	60	Ngie	499
Bima	13	Ngwaw (Ngono)	356
Ekumbe	6	Nso (Banso)	130
Elong	22	Nsungli	127
Masaka	7		
Muambong	9		6,695
M'bonge	291		
Ngolo-Batanga	439	NIGERIA	
Ninong	22	Boki	262
North Bakundu	29	Edo (includes Bini)	5
North Balong	27	Efik-Ibibio	1,903
(near Manyemen)		Fulani	5
South Bakundu	13	Hausa	9
South Balong	17	Ibo	2,315
(near Mundame)		Ijaw	23
		Tiv	376
	1,708	Yoruba	19
		Other Nigerians	325
MAMFE DIV.			5,242
Assumbo	54	FRENCH CAMEROONS	
Bangwa	317	Bafia	81
Banyangi	587	Bakoko	62
Boki	23	Bamiloke	99
Ekwe	28	Bana	142
Keaka	439	Basa	95
Mbo	162	Duala	34
Mbulu	62	Ewonde (Yaunde)	203
Menka	201	Other French Cameroons	289
Mundani	173		
Obang	99		1,005
Takamanda	117		
Widekum	61		
	2,323	TOTAL	17,793

CAMEROONS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MEDICAL SERVICES

The Corporation's Estates for medical purposes are divided into four areas constituted as follows :—

Bota Medical Area.—Includes Bota, the West Coast estates, Idenau, Bimbina, Mabeta, Moliwe and Esuke. The medical facilities are :—

Bota General Hospital with 94 beds, including six for maternity and six for isolation.

Idenau Auxiliary Hospital with 16 beds.

10 Aid Posts.

There are approximately 70 Senior Service employees and their wives and children in the area. There are approximately 3,500 other employees in the area and their wives and children.

Tiko Medical Area.—Includes all the Estates on the Tiko plain, the Elders & Fyffes estates at Likomba, the Pamol Estate at Bwenga and the Corporation Estate at Sonne Moliwe on the Dibanda escarpment. The medical facilities are :—

Tiko General Hospital, which might be described as the Corporation's Base Hospital and is specially equipped for dealing with orthopaedic work. It has 193 beds, ten cots and six isolation beds.

Tiko Cottage Hospital with 16 beds for Senior Service staff and their families.

The Pamol Bwenga Hospital with 8 beds.

Missellele Auxiliary Hospital with 29 beds and 6 isolation beds.

16 Aid Posts (two on the Elders & Fyffes estates were closed during the year as superfluous).

There is also the Nurses Preliminary Training School at Tiko.

Ekona Medical Area.—Includes the Ekona, Meanja, Mpundu, Molyko, Myuka, Malende, Tole Estates and the Buea Farms. The latter are being disposed of as from the beginning of 1957 so the Aid Post has been moved to the Tole Tea Estate. The medical facilities are :—

Ekona General Hospital with 77 beds, including 8 isolation.

7 Aid Posts.

Ekona has a Senior Service population of just over 20 employees and their wives and children. The other employees are just under four thousand and their wives and children.

Mukonje Medical Area.—Consists of the plantations at Mukonje, Tombel and M'bonge, i.e., all the Corporation's estates in the Kumba division. It is a widely scattered area which necessitates much hard travelling by the Medical Officer. Parts of the area are practically inaccessible during the height of the rainy season. The medical facilities are :—

Mukonje General Hospital with 39 beds and 4 isolation beds.

Mokoko Auxiliary Hospital with 12 male and 4 female beds.

Tombel Auxiliary Hospital with a similar distribution of beds.

The population at risk is roughly 20 Senior Service employees and their wives and children and 3,800 other employees and their wives and children.

STATISTICS OF PATIENTS

<i>In-Patients</i>	ADMISSIONS		DISCHARGES		IN-PATIENT DAYS
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	
Tiko Cottage Hospital	47	60	47	60	632
Tiko General Hospital	2,580	1,277	2,597	1,186	40,158
Bota General Hospital	1,260	1,004	1,088	995	8,998
Ekona General Hospital	897	604	989	594	7,990
Mukonje General Hosp.	802	326	792	318	4,076
Idenau Auxiliary Hosp.	268	37	259	34	2,287
Missellele Auxiliary Hospital	201	20	176	19	1,962
Tombel Auxiliary Hosp.	516	62	506	59	2,970
Mokoko Auxiliary Hospital	398	41	381	34	1,923

	OUT-PATIENT		ATTENDANCES	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Tiko Cottage Hospital	51	48	617	497
Tiko General Hospital	3,225	2,181	8,708	8,086
Bota General Hospital	1,603	1,022	10,070	6,047
Ekona General Hospital... ..	1,758	1,118	7,085	4,015
Mukonje General Hospital	2,063	1,002	9,234	3,858
Idenau Auxiliary Hospital	5,450	1,151	11,822	1,831
Missellele Auxiliary Hospital	1,701	350	13,774	2,702
Tombel Auxiliary Hospital	2,658	655	10,928	1,138
Mokoko Auxiliary Hospital	2,342	637	6,557	2,193

Aid Posts	<i>Attend- ances</i>	<i>Cases dealt with</i>
Tiko Area	230,252	58,374
Elders & Fyffes	45,262	15,920
Bota Area	107,730	26,269
Ekona Area	49,940	16,969
Mukonje Area	28,976	12,212

The number of deaths were :—

Tiko	...	...	...	...	73
Bota	...	...	...	...	64
Ekona	...	...	...	...	53
Mukonje	...	...	...	...	18

Operations showed an increase over 1955 as there were 69 major, 664 intermediate and 1,037 minor ones.

9,489 applicants for employment were examined of whom 1,119 were rejected, mostly for herniae and skin diseases.

CAMEROONS DEVELOPMENT

(Incorporated under Nigerian Law)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT

31.12.1955

£	LIABILITIES.	£	£
	RESERVE in accordance with Section 19 of Ordinance No. 39 of 1946:—		
500,000	For Re-housing, Replanting, Hurricane Risks and Disease Control		500,000
835,636	RESERVE for Depreciation written off in excess of amount allowed under Income Tax Ordinance as at 31st December, 1955		834,137
	RESERVE for Retiring Gratuities to Workers not Members of Provident Fund	100,000	
	Less: Payments during the year	18,974	
		81,026	
100,000	Add: Transfer from Profit and Loss	18,974	100,000
	LOANS (unsecured, repayable by instalments):—		
500,000	Government of Nigeria (final instalment 6th December, 1970)	500,000	
475,489	Government of Nigeria (final instalment 21st July, 1969)	475,489	
550,000	Government of Nigeria (final instalment July, 1975)	550,000	
—	Government of Nigeria—1956 Loan	258,000	
300,000	Barclays Overseas Development Corporation Ltd. (final instalment 29th May, 1961)	350,000	2,133,489
	CREDITORS AND PROVISIONS:—		
—	Trade Creditors, Wages and Other Expenses	378,234	
—	Deferred Interest on Government Loans	55,208	
—	Leave and Passages	50,000	
—	Income Tax:—		
—	Liability for 1956/57 Assessment (Balance due)... ..	—	
538,956	Provision for 1957/58 Assessment	11,630	495,072
28,215 DEBIT	PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT		15,117

£3,771,866

Carried forward ...

£4,077,815

MENT CORPORATION.

Ordinance No. 39 of 1946.)

AT 31st DECEMBER, 1956.

31.12.1955

£	ASSETS.	£ Cost to 31.12.1955	£ Additions during 1956	£ Cost to 31.12.1956
IMPROVEMENTS TO LEASEHOLD CONCESSIONS:—				
	Planting and Replanting	432,675	99,578	532,253
	Immature Cultivations	543,577	145,412	688,989
	Surveys	13,817	—	13,817
		990,069	244,990	1,235,059
	Buildings and Constructions	2,735,017	275,077	3,010,094
	Roads	226,902	22,153	249,055
	Rail Track	65,712	40,497	106,209
	Furniture and Equipment	198,742	18,456	217,198
		4,216,442	601,173	4,817,615
EQUIPMENT:—				
	Plant and Machinery	543,775	41,267	585,042
	Railway Rolling Stock	164,243	15,452	179,695
	Marine Craft	240,911	—	240,911
		5,165,371	657,892	5,823,263
	Less: Cost of Assets retired 1956 ...			35,348
				5,787,915
	Less: Amounts written off to 31st December, 1956, calculated under the Provisions of the Income Tax Ordinance ...			3,705,713
2,078,619				2,082,202
MOTOR VEHICLES:—				
	Cost to 31st December, 1955 ...	227,084		
	Add: Additions during year ...	29,949		
		257,033		
	Less: Cost of Vehicles retired ...	32,528		
			224,505	
	Less: Amounts written off to 31st December, 1956		194,374	
34,902				30,131
WORK IN PROGRESS:—				
79,685	Planting		29,724	
232,364	Buildings and Constructions		157,253	
42,115	Roads and Rail Track		53,266	
427	Furniture and Equipment		8,172	
5,271	Maintenance and Repairs			
36,166	Sundries		4,914	
				253,329
£2,509,549	Carried forward ...			£2,365,662

CAMEROONS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

(Incorporated under Nigerian Law)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1956

31.12.1955

£		£	£
3,771,866	<i>Brought forward ...</i>		4,077,815

NOTE.—The total amount of Authorized Capital Expenditure outstanding as at 31st December, 1956, was £700,000 of which firm commitments to third parties amounted to £160,000.

A. H. YOUNG, *Chairman.*
 W. J. C. RICHARDS, } *Members.*
 E. K. MARTIN, }
 A. P. FINLAY, *Chief Accountant.*

£3,771,866

£4,077,815

AUDITORS'

In accordance with Section 17 of the Cameroons Development Corporation Ordinance 1946, we report incorporated Returns from the various areas comprising the Corporation's Concessions.

We have obtained all the information and explanations we have required, and in our opinion the Balance Sheet and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the books and records of the Corporation.

ENUGU, NIGERIA.
 25th March, 1957.

Auditors.

CAMEROONS DEVELOP

(Incorporated under Nigerian

Dr. PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR

31.12.1955

£		£	£
1,560,614	To Upkeep of Mature Areas and Production, Ancillary Services, Administration		1,524,625
	„ Medical Services	119,739	
105,527	Less: Contributions by other Plantation Companies ...	15,700	
72,083	„ Welfare and Social Services		104,039
	„ Arbitration Awards:—		53,136
	Retrospective increases in Salaries and Wages from 1.4.55 to 31.10.55		—
116,012	„ Balance carried down		787,445
763,478			
£2,617,714			£2,469,245
	To Expenses of Head Office:—		
4,498	Remuneration of Chairman and Members	4,584	
6,229	Members' Travelling and Other Expenses	4,716	
9,896	Staff and Other Expenses	8,307	
			17,607
508	„ Bad Debts Written Off		51
3,000	„ Agency and Service Fees and Expenses		3,750
600	„ Consultants' Fees and Expenses		1,315
	„ Concession Rent:—		
	The Governor-General of Nigeria	40,870	
	Less: Allocated to Plantations	21,984	
18,967			18,886
1,329	„ Audit Fee and Expenses		1,500
	„ Depreciation:—		
560,180	Written off Improvements to Concessions	557,493	
129,692	Written off Equipment	79,729	
44,194	Written off Motor Vehicles	31,606	
			668,828
73,521	„ Loan Interest		89,645
—	„ Book Losses on Disposal of Assets		9,593
—	„ Balance carried down		73,936
£852,614			£885,111
17,548	To Balance brought down		—
—	„ Balance per last Account		28,215
19,204	„ Balance Unappropriated 1955 paid to the Governor-General of Nigeria		—
—	„ Provision for Income Tax 1957/58 Assessment ...		11,630
11,549	„ Transfer to Reserve for Retiring Gratuities		18,974
—	„ Balance carried to Balance Sheet		15,117
£48,301			£73,936

MENT CORPORATION.*Ordinance No. 39 of 1946.)***THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956.***Cr.***31.12.1955**

£		£	£
	By Revenue from Plantations:—		
	Bananas	1,759,394	
	Dried Bananas	12,430	
	Palm Products	214,435	
	Rubber	405,878	
	Cocoa	39,641	
	Pepper	3,648	
	Timber	33,819	
2,617,714			2,469,245
<u>£2,617,714</u>			<u>£2,469,245</u>
763,478	By Balance brought down		787,445
51,504	„ Agency Earnings and Commission		79,284
20,084	„ Miscellaneous Receipts and Adjustments		18,382
17,548	„ Balance carried down		—

<u>£852,614</u>		<u>£885,111</u>
—	By Balance brought down	73,936
19,204	„ Balance per last Account	—
882	„ Income Tax Excess Provision 1955/56 written back	—
28,215	„ Balance carried to Balance Sheet	—
<u>£48,301</u>		<u>£73,936</u>

